GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:152
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2004
SURRENDERING OF TELEPHONE CONNECTIONS
Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of surrendered and disconnected phones of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam has crossed the 50 lakh mark during the last two financial years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the loss of revenue in view of surrender and disconnection of Telephone connections;

(c) whether it is true that at the same time as on March 31, 2004 over 17 lakh people were waiting for phone connections from BSNL; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir.

The details of surrendered and disconnected phones of BSNL and MTNL during the last two financial years are furnished below:

Year	BSNL (Surrenders/Disconnections)	MTNL (Surrenders/Disconnections)
2002-03	17,93,536	4,67,200
2003-04	32,60,135	9,76,937

Despite the surrender of telephones, the subscriber base of BSNL has increased by 47.70 lakhs during 2002-03 and 34.59 lakhs during 2003-04. The equipment getting spare due to surrender of phones is being utilized to give telephone connections to other wait listed applicants. It is thus, not possible to identify with any degree of precision the revenue loss caused by such surrender of telephones.

(c)&(d) The total waiting list of BSNL as on 31.03.2004 was 17,54,965. Circle-wise details are given in the Annexure.

ANNEXURE-I

Circle wise waiting list of BSNL

Sl. No.	Name of Circles	Waiting list as on 31.03.2004

1	Andaman & Nicobar	151
2	Andhra Pradesh	51934
3	Assam	15797
4	Bihar	112465
5	Chhattisgarh	2118
6	Gujarat	58847
7	Haryana	81657
8	Himachal Pradesh	44935
9	Jammu & Kashmir	39704
10	Jharkhand	8143
11	Karnataka	89730
12	Kerala	419762
13	Madhya Pradesh	17300
14	Maharashtra	159004
15	North East - 1	5975
16	North East - 2	5387
17	Orissa	27713
18	Punjab	92284
19	Rajasthan	138019
20	Tamilnadu	58995
21	Uttranchal	5729
22	Uttarpradesh East	101771
23	Uttarpradesh West	43670
24	West Bengal	144226
25	Kolkatta	22720
26	Chennai	6929

TOTAL 1754965